

Hi!

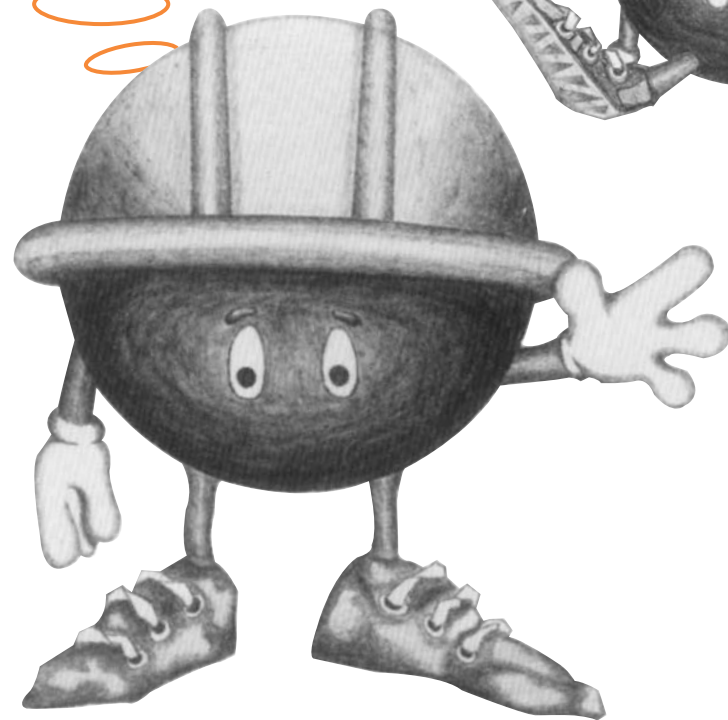
My name is Vee Dot.

I work with the Virginia Department of Transportation. I've dropped in to share some fun facts about the state of Virginia and the Virginia state map.

I've put together some exciting games and activities. All you need is a pencil or pen.

The first part shows you how to read a road map. Are you ready?

Go for it, dudes!



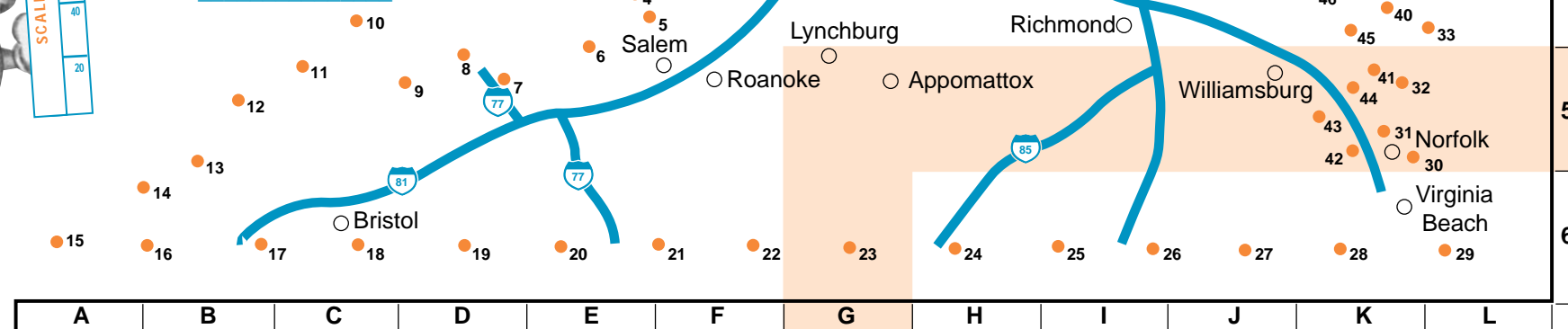
How can you fit the state of Virginia on a piece of paper?

Maps are pictures of very large areas. To fit a big state like Virginia on a piece of paper, a mapmaker (called a **cartographer**) draws the map "to scale."

That means long distances, like miles, are reduced to smaller distances, like inches. For example, on some maps, one inch on the map equals one mile on the ground, and that is the map's "scale of miles."

Each map's scale is different. I am holding a special ruler called a **bar scale** that shows my map's scale. You can trace my bar scale onto a piece of paper, and use it like a ruler to measure miles on the map.

My bar scale is divided into 5 parts, and each part equals 20 miles. The total length of my bar scale equals 100 miles. I used it earlier to measure the distance from Richmond to Fairfax. It turned out to be around 100 miles. Can you tell me how many miles there are between Bristol and Roanoke?



Here's a quick way to count the miles!

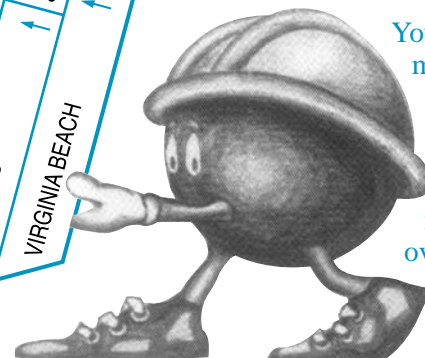
A **mileage chart** is a fast way to find out how far it is from one city to another without using a bar scale. The only tools you need are your eyes and two pointing fingers!

You can "drive your fingers" from Norfolk to Bristol on the mileage chart to find the number of miles between them. Try this: Find the mileage chart. Put one finger on the word "Norfolk" and another finger on "Bristol."

Slide the Norfolk over the arrow that points the way. Keep moving that finger, while you move your other (Bristol) finger over to meet it. The number where both fingers meet is the distance between Norfolk and Bristol (393 miles).

Use the chart again to find the number of miles between Virginia Beach and Charlottesville. _____

411	178	207	18	109
325	71	106	93	
393	162	192		
354	102			
256				
BRISTOL	CHARLOTTESVILLE	FAIRFAX	NORFOLK	RICHMOND
				VIRGINIA BEACH



Connect the dots to draw Virginia

P.S. Take a look at Virginia's interstate highways. Most of the larger cities are located near them. Why?

INDEX	
Appomattox.....	G-5
Bristol.....	C-6
Charlottesville.....	H-3
Culpeper.....	H-2
Fairfax.....	I-2
Fredericksburg.....	I-3
Lynchburg.....	G-5
Norfolk.....	K-5
Richmond.....	I-4
Roanoke.....	F-5
Salem.....	F-5
Staunton.....	G-3
Virginia Beach.....	K-6
Washington, D.C.....	J-2
Williamsburg.....	J-5

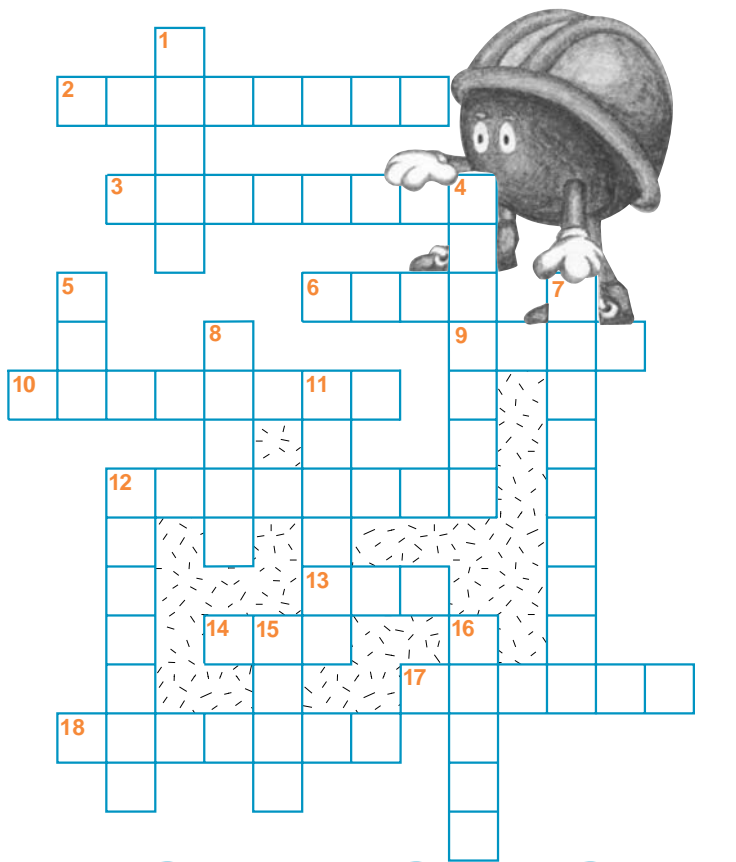
Looking for a city? Use the index!

An **index** is a list of cities and codes that tells us exactly where to look on the map to find a city or place.

Look for the index at the top of this page. Next to each city there is a letter and number pair. This is our own "secret code" that tells us where to look on the map.

Now look at the map. At the bottom of the map are letters, and along the side of the map are numbers. These divide the map into rows, crossing the map in two directions, up-down (vertical) and sideways (horizontal). The rows form an **index grid**.

Now you know about the secret code, and you are ready to find a city. Let's look for Appomattox. The index tells us that Appomattox is located at G-5. Put on finger on "G" below the map and another finger of "5" beside the map. Now drive your fingers to Appomattox by moving them along the two rows. Did you find it?



Virginia

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

2. State bird
3. State capital
6. Colonial Williams _____ is one of the largest tourist attractions
9. Orange road signs warn us of a _____ zone
10. Correct spelling of Virnngiia
12. Least populated county
13. "Oldest" river in America that flows through Virginia
14. Virginia is also known as the "_____ Dominion"
17. Safety cones are this color
18. Most populated county

Down

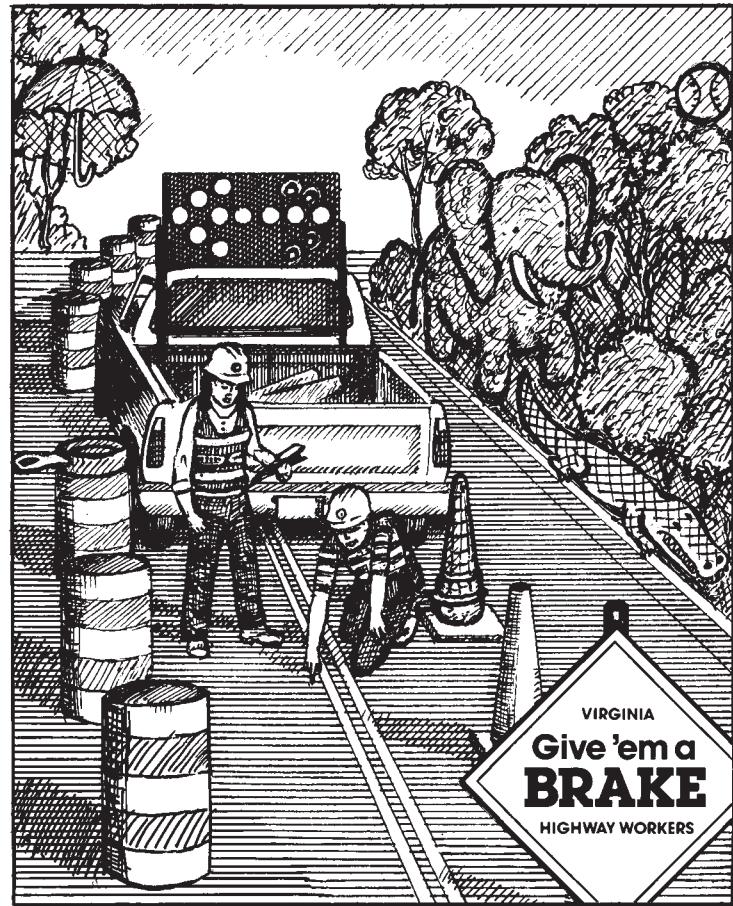
1. Hike along the Appalachian _____
4. State flower
5. Oldest state-supported military college (abbr.)
7. Smallest county (in overall size)
8. "_____ Dominion" is a popular amusement park
11. Largest body of fresh water is Buggs _____ Lake
12. "Adopt-a-_____" is one way Virginians keep the roads clean
15. The passing lane is on the _____
16. Please give highway workers a "_____"

Work Zones

"See Orange - Give 'em a Brake!"

The color **orange** tells people that someone is working near the road. The workers put up orange signs, orange cones, and orange barrels when they are working. They also wear orange vests.

When you and the driver see these orange signs, stay alert, slow down and watch out for the workers. Tell the driver to "Give highway workers a brake!" (Wave hello and say "Thank you" to the flagperson who directs traffic safely past the work zone!)



Here is a picture of a work zone. Use an orange crayon or pencil to color the cones, barrels, signs and vests that are typical safety features. Then, look for some hidden things in the picture that are very unusual. See if you can find them all and circle them!

Look for an ice cream cone, baseball, frying pan, umbrella, alligator, and elephant!

I'm all mixed up!

Believe it or not, there are 16 Virginia cities hiding somewhere in this scramble of letters. Please help me find them and circle them, reading across, diagonally, up and down and even backwards. Good luck!

BRISTOL
DANVILLE
EMPORIA
FAIRFAX
FRANKLIN
GALAX
HAMPTON
MANASSAS
NORFOLK
NORTON
POQUOSON
RADFORD
ROANOKE
SALEM
STAUNTON
SUFFOLK

E M P O R I A F O S L O
Y L P S A S S A N A M F
R O L O F T E G I L N R
A T H I Q A R L S E X A
D S A L V U I N U M A N
F I M Q A N O R F O L K
O R P Z H T A S F C A L
R B T X R O Y D O A G I
D C O O K N I A L N X N
B T N R O A N O K E P Q

Later, taters!

I had fun! Did you?
Show your teacher and your family all you learned about the state map and work zones. They'll be as proud of you as I am!



For additional copies and information, please contact:

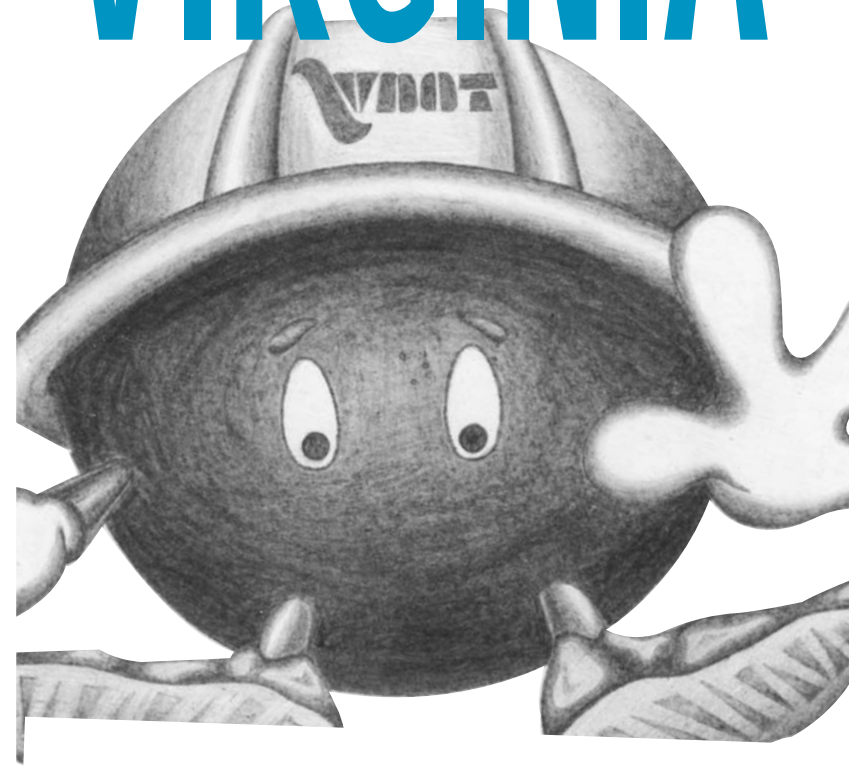
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Answers
SCALE: 140 miles
MILEAGE CHART: 178 miles
VIRGINIA CROSSWORD PUZZLE: Across 2. Cardinal 3. Richmond 6. burg 9. Work 10. Virginia 12. Highland 13. New 14. Old 17. Orange 18. Fairfax Down 1. Trail 4. Dogwood 5. VM 7. Arlington 8. Kings 11. Island 12. Highway 15. Left 16. Brake

VIRGINIA



☆ MAP GAMES & PUZZLES ☆

Learn to Travel
Virginia's Roads
with 'Vee Dot'